the setting up of new whole weapon factories under public sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to achieve self-reliance in weapons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps have been initiated for enhancing self reliance in defence systems. The aim is to increase the percentage of indigenous content in the annual defence acquisition, through indigenisation.

C.G.H.S. Dispensaries

1435. DR. PRABIN CHANDRA SARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the number of CGHS dispensaries in Maharashtra and Assam are inadequate in comparison with the number of Central Government employees and the medical services relating to pre-natal and post-natal care are not up to the mark in these dispensaries and also in other health care units run by Government;

(b) if so, the number of deaths recorded at the pre-natal and post-natal stages particularly in the State of Assam during each of the last three years for want of proper medical facilities;

(c) whether proper medicine and health care services are also not available in these CGHS dispensaries;

(d) whether these States propose to set up more CGHS dispensaries particularly in Vidarbha region and rural areas; and

(e) the steps Government propose to take to improve the functioning of dispensaries and other health care units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) As per statistics available, the ratio of beneficiaries per CGHS dispensary in Maharashtra compares well with the prevailing ratio in other States covered by CGHS. In Assam, however, sanction for starting 3 CGHS dispensaries at Guwahati has recently been issued, the infrastructure is in the process of being put in place and the dispensaries would start functioning soon.

(b) No pre-natal and post-natal deaths have come to the notice of the Government during the last three years in so far as CGHS dispensaries are concerned.

(c) Medicines are available in the dispensaries, and medicines which are not available are purchased from the local chemists and issued to the beneficiaries.

(d) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government at present.

(e) This is a continuous and ongoing process, and there is constant endeavour to streamline the functioning of CGHS dispensaries.

Funds to Maharasthra for N.H.

1436. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have been providing assistance to the State Governments for the maintenance work on National Highways;

(b) if so, the details of such assistance provided to Maharashtra during the last three years;

(c) whether the State Government have urged Union Government to allocate more funds since the length of National Highways in Maharasthra is more than in any other State; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Funds for maintenance and repairs of National Highways, released to the Govt. of Maharashtra, during the last three years, are as below :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Allotment
1993-94	1815.54
1994-95	2150.45
1995-96	2579.33

(c) and (d). The funds allocated already take into consideration the length of National Highways in the State.

ANNOUNCEMENT RE: PRESENTATION OF GENERAL BUDGET

12.01 hrs.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : Before we go to Zero Hour, I would like to inform the House that the House would adjourn at 4 P.M. today to reassemble at 5 P.M. for presentation of the General Budget.

Now, we will take up Papers to be Laid on the Table and then, we will come to Zero Hour.